

Existing law provides that the salary of the governor shall be \$95,000 payable annually upon his own warrant and that it shall not be increased except by Act of the legislature. Existing law additionally provides that the salary of each statewide elected official, except the governor, shall be equal to the salary received by the chief justice of the state supreme court as of October 1, 1995, (\$85,000) payable annually upon the statewide elected official's own warrant.

Existing law provides that legislators be paid an annual salary of \$16,800.

New law creates and provides for the "Compensation Review Commission" consisting of nine members: two appointed by the president of the Senate; two by the speaker of the House of Representatives; one by the chief justice of the supreme court; and four selected by a majority of the statewide elected officials. Provides that the members must be residents and qualified voters of the state and shall serve four-year terms. Provides that no member of the commission shall be a statewide elected official, an employee of the office of the governor, an employee of a statewide elected official, an employee of the legislature, or an employee of the office of the judiciary. Specifies that the commission shall elect one of its members chairman. Prohibits commission members from receiving compensation for their services, but provides that actual expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties shall be paid. Provides that the commission is domiciled in Baton Rouge and shall meet at least biennially. Provides that any necessary staff shall be provided by appropriate legislative committee staff.

New law requires the commission to make a study of the salaries payable to statewide elected officials and members of the legislature. Requires the commission to submit its recommendations concerning the salaries of these officials to the legislature 60 days prior to the commencement of any regular session of the legislature in an even-numbered year. Provides that thereafter, a report may be submitted every two years at any regular session of the legislature in an even-numbered year. Requires the report to be submitted to the offices of speaker and the president, who shall distribute copies to each member of their respective houses. Requires all departments and agencies of the state to cooperate in furnishing any information the commission deems necessary to discharge its duties.

New law provides that the salaries recommended in the report take effect on July 1st of the year in which the report is submitted if approved by concurrent resolution adopted by a favorable majority vote of the elected members of each house. Requires the concurrent resolution to be adopted in accordance with the same procedures and formalities required for the passage of a bill, except for submission to the governor.

Effective August 15, 1999.

(Adds Chapter 26 of Title 42, R.S. 42:1481- 1485)